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# Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 54, no. 10

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# Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin



Middletown Public Library

JUNE 1982



# RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

150 EMPIRE STREET

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Indexed in Current Awareness  
Library Literature  
Z673R52 57-26438

## Editorial Notice:

The Bulletin is published monthly except in August. News and articles should be submitted to the editor by the 1st. day of each month for publication by the end of that month.

The Bulletin is a publication for public, school, academic and special libraries of Rhode Island. Published by the Rhode Island Library Association, the Bulletin welcomes news and discussion of interest to RILA members. Articles contained herein, however, do not necessarily reflect the ideas of the RILA membership, or the Bulletin staff or advertisers. All articles about library and media matters will be considered. All should be signed and should not exceed ten double spaced typed pages unless the editor is consulted. Cover art should be done in black and white and should measure 7½ inches wide by 6 inches high.

The Bulletin subscription rates are \$8.00/year for agencies or individuals not holding membership in RILA. Advertising rates per issue are \$20 per ¼ page, \$35 per ½ page, and \$50 per full page. Call the advertising manager for further information.

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RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
BULLETIN

June 1982

VOLUME 54 NUMBER 10

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COVER ART: A sketch of the Middletown Public Library, done by local artist Richard C. Grosvenor. Founded as the Middletown Free Library in 1848, the library moved to its beautiful new home at 700 West Main Road in September of 1979. A former Navy day care center, the building was completely renovated and refurbished by the town. The library encompasses 9,000 square feet, and has a collection totalling more than 30,000 volumes. The sketch and history were submitted by Christine C. Love, the library's Director.



## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



Several months ago, I received a letter from Alan Jay Lincoln of the University of Lowell asking if I would consider an article on crime in Rhode Island libraries for publication in the RILA Bulletin. Naturally, I was interested in reading the article, as I think our readers will be. In some ways, however, the report as we received it raises more questions than it answers. For example, I would like to know more about the libraries which responded to the survey. Were they large, medium or small-sized institutions located in the city, suburbs, or the country? Doubtless, readers will have other questions which Mr. Lincoln may be able to answer. If there is any further information about the survey which you would like to obtain, why not direct your inquiry to me, and I will forward your questions along with mine to Mr. Lincoln. Perhaps in a future Bulletin issue we will be able to print more information on crime in Rhode Island's public libraries.

I want to add here that for the next several months at least, all inquiries concerning the Bulletin should be directed to me at my home address: Box 116, William Henry Road, North Scituate, RI 02857, telephone 647-2487. I will be on maternity leave from Meeting Street School as of May 15, but I still intend to continue editing the Bulletin. Please continue to direct all news items to News Editor Sondra Giles and inquiries relating to the Rhode Island Library Association to RILA President Anne Parent.

One final note--you'll find a RILA membership renewal form in this month's Bulletin. Remember that July 1 is the deadline for renewals. In order to ensure that you won't miss any issues of the Bulletin, why not send in your membership renewal today?

Debbie Barchi

### LIBRARY PICTURES REQUESTED

The Public Relations Committee of the Rhode Island Library Association requests that librarians in Rhode Island send pictures and/or slides of their libraries to:

Lauri Burke  
Barrington Public Library  
283 County Road  
Barrington, RI 02806.

These slides may be sent to television stations for use in station breaks, and the pictures may be used in other promotional literature. Thank you!

## CORRESPONDENCE



This is a very nice complimentary letter sent to Jody Bush by Judith F. Krug (ALA Committee on Professional Ethics) about our recent adoption of ALA's Code on Professional Ethics. Jody thought that she would share the compliments with all RILA members by passing this letter on to the RILA Bulletin for publication. It's nice to know that our actions are appreciated in the larger library community!

Dear Jody:

Just a (belated) note to thank you for setting our records straight - way back in February - regarding the Rhode Island Library Association's adoption of the ALA Code of Professional Ethics. RILA didn't even wait to be asked! - and I consider that a truly professional action. (Oh, but that some of the other chapters had done likewise!)

Nevertheless, please know that RILA was the first state library association to endorse the Code, and I send our thanks and appreciation for your expeditious handling of the matter.

Cordially,

Judith F. Krug  
Staff Liaison  
ALA Committee on Professional Ethics

### Correction

The artist who did the drawing of the Cranston Public Library that was used on the cover of our April issue is Harvey Allen Wagner. His last name was inadvertently left off in the credit for his work. Our apologies to the artist.





CRIME AND DISRUPTION IN RHODE ISLAND LIBRARIES  
BY  
ALAN JAY LINCOLN

Many libraries have been facing growing problems with what has come to be termed the "problem patron". These problems typically take the form of aberrant behavior by disturbed patrons, noisy outbursts by juveniles, verbal abuse of the staff, and so on. However, the range of problems affecting libraries is much greater. Libraries, like other public institutions are likely to experience some episodes of crime and disruption. In fact, crime in the public sector is a major problem facing many local and state law enforcement agencies. Increasing rates of crime and disruption are placing added burdens on the already strained response capabilities of police departments. Some of this increased public crime is coming from the library setting. In many cases, public libraries are not equipped nor are staff trained to handle their own problems with crime. Equally as important, the staff may not recognize when they should not even try to deal with the problem, but should seek outside assistance. Our concern in an ongoing series of studies is to identify factors that tend to affect the frequency and intensity of crime.

It is our contention that libraries tend to be relatively high risk institutions. That is, there are several risk factors that contribute to the possible victimization of the library and library staff. For example, a high proportion of library patrons tend to be under the age of eighteen. Generally, the peak ages for participation in crime are between the ages of sixteen and nineteen. Thus libraries tend to be dealing with a high risk age group. Secondly, many libraries contain highly valued and easily sold goods. These include audio-visual equipment, typewriters, artwork, antiques, as well as some cash. Often these same libraries have inadequate security procedures or systems. The library schedule itself may be a factor contributing to some crime and disruption. The public library is one of a few public buildings in the community with an evening schedule. When a building is open after dark, special consideration should be given to the protection of the facility as well as the staff and user. Finally, the ease of access by all in the community may contribute to some episodes of disruption. Librarians cannot arbitrarily exclude people who might be the source of problems--even if these people could be identified with any precision. Each of these factors suggests that the potential for minor as well as more serious problems is real.

The library science literature abounds with references to cases of vandalism, crime, and arson. Crime affects libraries in many forms. Books frequently are mutilated and buildings are defaced. These and other problems occur throughout the United States and in other countries as well (4,8). Books disappear at an alarming and

costly rate. Many are borrowed legitimately and never returned, while others are stolen for either personal use or profit. Items in addition to books and periodicals show up in book drops. We know of cases of milk, beer, chocolate, ice cream, eggs, and corrosive chemicals being "deposited" (1,7). Far more serious acts of vandalism have occurred in both large (2,9) and small libraries (3,5,7).

The intimidation of staff and patron is a growing problem. Our state level surveys have found that some states have had as many as 15% of their libraries reporting assaults against staff or patrons. More common has been the situation in which groups of youth "hang out" near the library and harass those entering and leaving. Many staff in these institutions report that they fear being in the building alone or at night (5,6).

Despite some evidence that crime in libraries is becoming a serious problem, most social scientists have not examined these patterns in a systematic way. Library administrators, staff, and local police should be made aware of these problems. Staff should be trained to identify risk situations and to take proper preventative action. Knowing when to seek outside help can be a valuable skill. Systematic reporting of all disruptive episodes should be encouraged. Then the local library can develop its own appropriate prevention program.

## PROCEDURE

SAMPLE. Rhode Island was one of thirteen states selected for study in the current series of surveys. A systematic sample of 55 public libraries was drawn for each state. From the comprehensive listing of all public libraries in the American Library Directory, every "nth" library was selected. The ratio was determined by dividing the total number of public libraries by sixty. For example, if a state had 120 public libraries, then every second library in the listing was included in the sample. In this way a representative sample for each state was obtained.

MATERIALS. An explanatory cover letter, the survey instrument, and a non-stamped return envelope were sent to the head librarian in each of the sampled libraries during October, 1981. The survey instrument was comprised of a four-page, 68 item questionnaire. The items were developed following a review of current literature related to both library science and criminal victimization of other public institutions. Questions covered topics including: (1) characteristics of the library, (2) characteristics of the community, (3) patron use patterns, (4) experiences with 18 different types of crimes, (5) direct and indirect costs of crime, (6) use of security equipment and procedures, and so on. All items were fixed alternative questions constructed to obtain "computer ready" responses. The survey was designed so that the identity of the library would not be known unless the respondent chose to do so. Returned surveys were coded and the data keypunched in preparation for analysis.



## RESULTS

The systematic sampling of 55 Rhode Island libraries resulted in a return of 22 questionnaires to date. This is slightly below the average return for mailed victimization surveys in this project. All of the data analyses were conducted using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences. In this report, we will present data describing the frequency of 18 different types of crime and disruption. In addition, summary indices were computed and these data will be presented as well.

The findings related to patterns of victimization are presented in Table 1. The crimes described fall into six general categories: (1) vandalism/damage, comprised of items A, F, G, H, I, J; (2) theft, items B, C, D, E; (3) drug offenses, K and L; (4) indecent exposure, Q; (5) arson, R; and (6) assault, P and Q. Two additional items (M and N) asked about verbal abuse directed against staff and patrons.

Table 1 describes how often (using five categories of frequencies) each of the acts occurred in the previous 12 months in our sample of Rhode Island libraries. At this time, the description of the findings will be limited to the percentage of libraries reporting at least one episode of each act, six or more occurrences of each act, and the summary index for the type of offense. We consider six or more episodes of the same act to be a chronic problem deserving special attention.

The most common type of vandalism or damage was intentional book damage. Seventy per cent of our responding libraries were aware of at least one such episode, while 35% had over 10 episodes. Whether the volume was rendered useless or was repairable was not assessed in this portion of the library crime project. Vandalism outside the building was reported in nearly two-thirds of the cases. Inside vandalism was found in exactly half of the libraries and was chronic in nearly a quarter. Vandalism of cars belonging to either the staff or patrons occurred in approximately 20% of our responding libraries. Once again, these problems did not appear to be chronic in many libraries. The measure of equipment damage/vandalism shows that 28% of libraries experienced this problem. The summary index of vandalism that includes all of the related items shows that 80% of responding libraries reported at least one act of some kind of vandalism.

For a moment, let us consider the problem of awareness of crime and disruption. Obviously, unless an episode is observed by or brought to the attention of a staff member it could not be reported to us. Even at that point some known episodes may not be described to us for reasons important to the person completing the survey, or because of recall problems. Typically, victimization surveys of individuals and commercial establishments (very few studies of public institutions other than schools have been done) are less likely to get complete information on "private" or embarrassing episodes. Incidents that occur outside the institution, such as vandalism to cars and purse snatchings are more likely to be reported to police than to the library administrator. Thus our estimates are likely to be conservative in regard to the total number of disruptive episodes.

Examination of the items related to theft show that book theft was by a wide margin the most frequent and consistent problem that we measured. Ninety-five percent of the returns indicated at least one book theft episode and two-thirds reported at least six episodes. The theft of reference material was found in 76% of the libraries and occurred over six times in nearly a third of the institutions. The theft of items of equipment was reported by a third of our sample but was not chronic in any. We do not have estimates of the value of these items at this time. Other thefts, including cash, personal items, and so on were mentioned by  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the respondents. The theft index shows that 95% of the responding libraries were aware of at least one theft.

The use and sale of drugs in the library falls into the category of "private" crimes. These acts were reported less frequently than were theft and vandalism. Fourteen percent of the sample reported drug use by staff or patron while no cases indicated awareness of drug sales. Indecent exposure, an example of an embarrassing type of disruption was reported in approximately 10% of the cases and was not chronic in any. Verbal abuse to the staff was indicated by nearly half of the respondents and was chronic in nearly a quarter of the libraries. "Abuse" is a difficult concept to measure. What is considered abusive to one librarian may be ignored by another. Verbal abuse to a patron was reported in one-third of our surveys.

We also computed a total index which describes how often any of the crimes or acts of disruption occurred. Only one library in our sample reported to be free of all the acts that we measured. The total index includes several incidents of assault against staff and patron. In many ways this is the crime that causes the most problems since it tends to be feared the most--even when known to be infrequent. Written comments from the Rhode Island surveys mentioned several other potential problems that we did not measure but will include in subsequent studies. The passing of counterfeit money was attempted several times, typically during a request for change for the copier. Requests for renewals of non-existing periodical subscriptions was also reported. These requests and other types of false billings are known to occur frequently in other institutions and commercial establishments.

Compared with the other twelve states in this portion of the library crime project, the participating Rhode Island libraries experienced average levels of drug related offenses and incidents of verbal abuse. However, our analyses show that the level of theft, vandalism, and the total amount of crime and disruption were above the averages of the other states. These state level comparisons must be viewed with care. We have not presented information on control factors that help explain state variations. These include items such as city size, library size, use of security, and neighborhood characteristics.

Information about patterns of crime and disruption can be used as the first step in helping to develop programs to minimize the occurrence and impact of these episodes. Programs can range from redesigning or adding security systems to improved police coverage and citizen cooperation in reporting suspicious events. The specific treatment depends upon the particular kinds and severity of the local problems.



TABLE ONE  
PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES REPORTING  
DISRUPTIVE EPISODES FOR A TWELVE MONTH PERIOD

Type of Episode	Number of Episodes				
	0	1-2	3-5	6-10	Over 10
A. Intentional Book Damage	30	15	20	0	35
B. Book Theft	5	10	20	20	45
C. Reference Material Stolen	24	19	29	5	24
D. Equipment Stolen	68	27	0	5	0
E. Other Theft	76	5	14	5	0
F. Vandalism Outside Building	36	32	23	0	9
G. Vandalism Inside Building	50	27	0	14	9
H. Vandalism of Patrons' Car	82	9	5	5	0
I. Vandalism of Staff Car	77	18	0	5	0
J. Vandalism of Equipment	73	23	0	5	0
K. Drug Use by Staff/Patron	86	5	10	0	0
L. Drug Sale by Staff/Patron	100	0	0	0	0
M. Verbal Abuse to Patron	68	14	9	5	9
N. Verbal Abuse to Staff	55	14	9	14	9
O. Indecent Exposure	91	9	0	0	0
P. Assault on Patron	95	5	0	0	0
Q. Assault on Staff	91	9	0	0	0
R. Arson	95	5	0	0	0

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This study is one of a series of state level studies of crime and disruption in public libraries. The author is an Associate Professor of Law and Justice and director of the Center for the Study of Crime in Public Places at the University of Lowell. A listing of related reprints is available upon request from the author. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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# NATIONAL NEWS

## TASK FORCE PUBLISHES "FOURTH DEBATE" REPORT ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR INFORMATION POLICY

A major report addressing the importance of the appropriate role of the government in disseminating information, has just been released by an independent task force assembled by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) after two years of work. NCLIS is a permanent, independent agency in the Executive Branch responsible for advising the President and Congress on the nation's library and information needs and developing and implementing national policies.

The Public/Private Sector Task Force addressed the information issue of the 80's, crucial to the future of libraries. The "Fourth Debate" revolves around the question of whether the government should intervene to insure a well-informed citizenry and to protect people's basic rights to information.

The three previous debates which shaped our nation's history were over the ratification of the Constitution, the slavery debate leading to the Civil War, and the economic turmoil which shaped the New Deal.

Foreseeing a conflict between the public and private sector's dissemination and distribution of information, NCLIS, in June of 1979, appointed the Task Force to explore these problems. The Task Force reached substantial agreement on a set of principles to guide government information policy in the future. These include:

- Reliance upon libraries and private sector organizations (both for-profit and not-for-profit), to make information readily available for distribution by the Federal Government, rather than establishing new governmental agencies for that purpose.
- The Federal Government should take a leadership rather than a management role especially in furthering the use of information as an economic and social resource.
- Limiting direct government intervention in the marketplace. The issue of the Federal Government's entry in the information marketplace presented the greatest area of concern for the Task Force.

"On the one hand," says the report, "government clearly has responsibilities for information functions in collection and distribution of information in areas defined by the Constitution and mandated by Congress. At the very least, there is information that government must provide--a record of its actions, explanations of the law, descriptions of services. On the other hand, as the government's role in producing and providing information expands, the likelihood increases that the greater diversity achievable by private investment will be discouraged."

To reconcile the conflict, the Task Force sets conditions that must be met in order for the government to engage in commercial distribution of information products and services: There must be "compelling reasons" for doing so, and there must be well-defined procedures for involvement of the private sector in the decision that the reasons are compelling.

The pricing policies for information distributed by the government were considered. The unanimous conclusion was that 'they should reflect the true cost of access and/or reproduction, unless there are Congressionally specified reasons for subsidy.' In other words, prices should not be set to recover the costs of creating the data in the first place, nor should they be artificially high or low.

With regard to information compiled from private sources, the Task Force recommended that property rights be protected.

The Public/Private Sector Task Force Report "Public/Private Sector Interaction in Providing Information Services" is available from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, 1717 K Street, N.W., Suite 601, Washington, D.C. 20036. It may be obtained from the Government Printing Office, Stock Number: 052-003-00866-1, Cost: \$5.50.

## ✓ MEETING NOTES ✓

### EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCES

On March 15, 1982, the seventh annual Basic Adult Education Conference was held at the Flanagan campus of CCRI. Participants in all areas of adult education attended forty workshops covering a myriad of topics. Libraries were represented by several DSLS personnel who, along with Providence Public Library, organized exhibits of materials used in libraries. Five librarians were part of a panel discussion presenting the various programs in adult education in which public libraries in the state are involved.

On the following day, March 16, the Rhode Island Educational Media Association held its annual conference at the same location. Many interesting meetings were conducted with a strong emphasis on new technology. Public librarians from the Island System participated in a lively presentation that explained the System's cooperative story-telling program. Approximately 180 people attended this well-organized conference.

Reporter-Paul Drake  
Western Interrelated System



# meeting notes

## LIVELY EXPERIMENT UPDATE

A Lively Experiment, the NEH funded project that has Providence Public Library assisting libraries throughout Rhode Island in presenting humanities programs related to Rhode Island's paradoxical history and ethnic diversity, had its first birthday on May 4. Since that date is also Rhode Island's birthday, the two anniversaries were the occasion for a joint celebration at the Providence Public Library. The celebration included balloons, a chance to traverse the library's magnificent Washington Street entrance, and a ceremony at which Governor J. Joseph Garrahy proclaimed the coming year to be Lively Experiment Year. The real highlight, however, was the performance of songs relating to Rhode Island by Fran Farrell, Providence System Coordinator and RILA Secretary, and pianist Charles Strauss. The songs, from the turn of the century through the 1950s, were immensely amusing, and the performance was wonderful. The songs were selected by the performers from the collection of Brown University's John Hay Library.

Reporter-Howard Boksenbaum  
Island Interrelated System



## LIBRARY FAIR COMMITTEE OF COLA



The Library Fair Committee has chosen the logo of an umbrella for the Fair which will be held on Thursday, September 30 at the Warwick Mall. The Committee is looking for volunteers to help in five major areas:

- 1) Center stage - programs, skits, and so on.
- 2) Special features - may be held in other rooms in the Mall.
- 3) Public relations and publicity - a promotional flyer should be designed soon.
- 4) Individual tables - libraries and library-related groups such as RIEMA.
- 5) Information booth - to coordinate Fair activities and to give public information about library and library-related groups.

If you would like to help the committee in one of the above areas, or for further information on the Library Fair, call Earleen Gamache at Lincoln Public Library, 333-2422.

Reporter-Earleen Gamache  
Lincoln Public Library



## NEWS

from the

### RILA EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board has approved a policy of charging non-RILA groups a \$50.00 fee for any inserts they wish to mail out with the Bulletin. The fee will cover additional costs charged by the mailer to fold and staple the inserts and the additional postage for the heavier mailing. All requests for inserts must be approved by the Executive Board.

RILA Officers have been contributing to Association publicity on Rhode Island's air waves. President Anne Parent was interviewed on WEAN during National Library Week and Vice-President/President Elect Howard Boksenbaum was also interviewed on WEAN on the subject of book banning. This was Howard's second censorship interview on the station.

#### NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY BOARD NEWS

The NELB accepted a proposal from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, Boston, to assume operation of the Jobline. NELB granted the Jobline service, equipment and records, and a grant of \$1,000 for start-up costs to the Simmons library school. Details of the transfer of the Jobline to Simmons will be forthcoming. The NELB office in Augusta, Maine, will close permanently on June 30, 1982.

Officers elected in March are: Clarence R. Walters (Connecticut), President; Fay Zipkowitz (Rhode Island), Vice-President/President Elect; Shirley Adamovich (New Hampshire), Secretary; and J. Gary Nichols (Maine), Treasurer. Current members of NELB are the interstate library compact administrators of the state of Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

For further information contact Clarence Walters, State Librarian of Connecticut, 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06115. Tel.: (203)566-4301.





## intellectual freedom

Howard Boksenbaum, RILA Vice-President/President Elect, and Bill Bergeron, Intellectual Freedom Committee Co-Chair, were interviewed recently by The Barrington Times about the way libraries deal with complaints about books. There has been an increase in censorship that has been noticed nationally, and the two recommend that the best way to avoid complaints is for librarians to listen to what their communities want. They say that most local residents who oppose certain books usually find their complaints to be personal and don't expect the library to remove the works from its shelves.

## nominating

The Nominating Committee has been established and has met to elect a chair. The members, who will be selecting the slate of candidates for the next RILA Officers, are:

Louise Sherby (RIC Reference) - Chair  
Margaret Deignan (Retired from PPL)  
Pat Thibodeau (Women & Infants Hospital)  
Nancy Blake (CCRI Technical Services)  
Annalee Bundy (PPL Director)  
Florence Doksansky (Brown Reference)  
Ann Crawford (Cross Mills, Charlestown)

Suggestions for nominees to RILA Executive Board Offices may now be sent directly to the Committee Chair:

Louise Sherby  
125 Burnside Street  
North Providence, RI 02911

To: RILA Nominating Committee From: \_\_\_\_\_

I suggest the following persons as possible candidates for

Pres. Elect/Vice-Pres. \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Member-at-large \_\_\_\_\_ NELA Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

# PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Martha Habeshian, the Children's Librarian at the Peace Dale Library, has accepted the position of Advertising Manager for the RILA Bulletin.

Alice B. Brendel has recently been appointed Reference Librarian (Social Sciences) at Brown University. She was formerly Economics and Business Bibliographer at Boston University. Before that she held the position of Senior Business Librarian in the History and Social Science Department at the Mid-Manhattan Library, New York Public Library.

Peter Lipman of Brown University has resigned his position as Assistant University Librarian for Systems Analysis and Circulation Services.

Val Urbanek of the Circulation Department at Brown University will be participating in the Library Instruction Round Table (LIRT) at the ALA Conference in Philadelphia on Tuesday, July 13. The topic for discussion is innovative approaches to using the computer in library instruction activities.

Dorothy B. Frechette, Supervisor of Media Services at DSLS, has been appointed Chief, Division of Planning and Development and Information Services for the Department of State Library Services. She will assume her new duties on June 27.

Mattie Gustafson, Director of Tiverton Public Library, and her husband, Harry, became the proud parents of their first son, Andrew Edward, on April 15.

Christine Love, Director of the Middletown Public Library, and husband, John, also became parents for the first time with the birth of Michael Cole on April 29.

Sandy Dupree, Librarian at Coventry Public Library, and her husband, Thomas, started this whole trend with the birth of their first child, Steven Gregory, on February 16.

Apologies to Kathleen Pine, the new Children's Librarian at Cumberland, for not fully identifying her in the May issue. Mrs. Pine recently came to us from Canada. She holds a Bachelor of Library Science from the University of Alberta and a Masters of Library Science from the University of British Columbia. She was formerly the Supervisor of Children's Services for the Municipal Library in Sherwood Park, Alberta. We welcome her to the Rhode Island Library community.

Peter Fuller, Director at the East Greenwich Free Library since 1979, assumed a new position on June 1 as Assistant Director of the Woonsocket-Harris Public Library.



Tanya Trinkaus has joined the staff of the West Warwick Library System as a librarian. She holds an MLS from the University of Rhode Island and has recently worked in the slide collection at Brown University Library.

Sally Curtis, former Children's Librarian at the Revere, Mass. public library, will be the librarian at Meeting Street School as of June, while Deborah Barchi is on maternity leave.

Donna Barkman, Film Cooperative Director, is a co-author of an article in a recent issue of Interracial Books for Children Bulletin (vol. 13, no. 1). The article, "The Woman's Suffrage Movement in Children's Books," discusses how children's books may be used to supplement the standard history texts that ignore or minimize the importance of the woman's suffrage movement.

E. Beatrice Dodge, the librarian and kindergarten teacher at Block Island School and former librarian at the Island Free Library, died on Saturday, May 15. Mrs. Dodge was a very active member of her community serving on the town Planning Board, the Chamber of Commerce, the Block Island Historical Society, and the Block Island Conservancy among others. She had made several generous donations of land to the town for public use, including four acres that opened a public right-of-way from Mohegan Trail to the Bluffs.

## BULLETIN BOARD

**LIAISON ELIMINATED:** Because of the federal funding cutbacks, the consolidation of Title IV B into Chapter 2 of the Educational Consolidation and Improvement Act, and departmental reorganization, the position of Consultant - Libraries and Learning Resources, held by Rita Stein, was eliminated in the Rhode Island Department of Education as of May 28. Because of union seniority provisions, Mrs. Stein will no longer be employed by the Department.

**NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY JOBLINE:** Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science will be taking over the New England Library Jobline from the New England Library Board.

**NELA CONFERENCES:** The 1982 NELA Conference is being held at the Sheraton Tara in Nashua, New Hampshire, October 3-5. The 1983 Conference will be at Dunphy's in Hyannis, Massachusetts, October 31-November 2.

**LIBRARY COOPERATION:** Barrington and Cranston have recently joined with the Department of State Library Services in a cost-saving cooperative system for CLSI automated circulation. Borrowers names and addresses are now being entered into the computer.

BRISTOL PARADE: Last year the Island System delivery van, decorated with colorful library posters and crepe paper, made its debut in the famed Bristol 4th of July parade. The system has been invited back again this year and would like to share the fun with a few friends. If your library is interested in driving, marching, or sitting in the van in the parade, call Lauri Burke (245-3106) or Howard Boksenbaum (245-3875).

BUILDING CONVERSIONS: Public library directors and trustees are invited to attend "BUILDING CONVERSION: PANACEA, STOP GAP OR CUL DE SAC?" from 9:00 a.m. through 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, during the ALA Conference in Philadelphia. The program is organized by the Architecture for Public Libraries Committee of the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), a division of ALA. The program will explore whether the conversion of structures designed originally for another purpose offers a reasonable solution to public library building needs. There will be a General Session concerned with criteria for evaluating structures offered for public library use and an Evaluation Session of ten conversions presented in a slide-show preview. The evaluation team will consist of a librarian experienced in building projects, a library building consultant, and an architect. The ten projects are being chosen to represent a variety of sizes and types of original buildings to provide as broad a spectrum of experience with conversion as possible.

CENSORSHIP DISPLAY: B. Dalton Bookseller, 276 Westminster Mall, recently featured a full window display on censorship. The subject was "Book Banning: Past, Present and Future" and displayed various books banned throughout the years, featuring in particular Huckleberry Finn, because of the current controversy. Michelle Creamer, Manager of the bookstore and a former librarian herself, said she worked closely with Providence Public Library on the display, particularly with Carolyn Schneider, and that her assistants, Robin Wyllie and Nancy Spinney, put in many overtime hours researching it. RILA applauds them for their assistance and cooperation with libraries in working toward a common goal of intellectual freedom.

VIDEOCASSETTES: The Rhode Island Library Film Cooperative has initiated its one-year pilot program of videocassette circulation. Starting the first week of April, twenty-three participating public libraries received packets of 13 one-half inch VHS cassettes which will be loaned directly to individual borrowers. The titles include feature films, sports and music presentations; programs produced by Channel 36, the local public television station, will be added during the year. Every two months the packets will move to another library in the circuit. Each library has established its own policies and procedures for circulation. Statistics are being kept so the project can be evaluated at the end of one year to determine both the response from each community and the role of the RILFC in further video development.



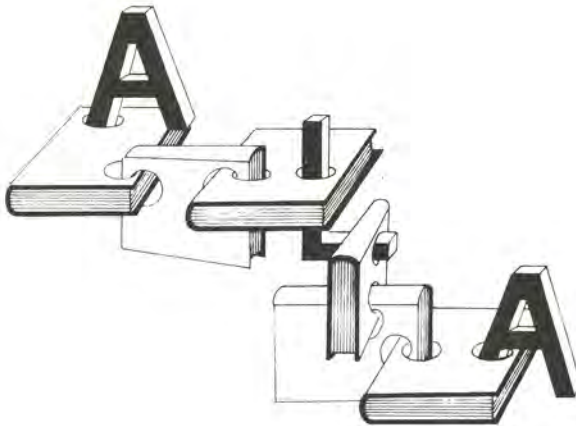
**LIBRARY ROAD RACE:** The Tyler Library has found a unique way to raise funds. The second annual Tyler Library Road Race was held Saturday, May 8. The five-mile course begins and ends at the library in Moosup Valley, Foster. The number of participants (167) was double that of last year, and, due to the generosity of many organizations contributing refreshments and services, more than \$600 was raised for the library from the \$4.00 entry fee. Runners came from Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts, and it was rumored that Cranston librarian, John Fox Cory was spotted somewhere near the middle of the field.

**REFERENCE WORKSHOPS:** The coordinators of the Island System and the Western System, Howard Boksenbaum and Paul Drake, have joined with Frank Iacono of DSLS to offer a series of basic reference workshops for nonprofessional staff, new employees, and eager volunteers in each of their systems. Four workshops will be held at different libraries in each system. The series begins in the Western System on May 13 and ends in the Island System on June 29. Subjects to be covered include negotiation questions, basic reference sources, Rhode Island reference sources, reference collections in each system, and interlibrary services.

**TRUSTEES:** Joining the American Library Trustee Association brings you the opportunity to do a more effective job by sharing information with trustees throughout the Nation. Benefits include six issues of the ALTA Newsletter and a subscription to American Libraries. Dues are \$35.00 and may be paid by the library or by the trustee personally. Mail checks to: American Library Association, American Library Trustee Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

**LIBRARIAN OBJECTS:** Donna J. Roberts, a librarian in the Cranston School system and a resident of East Greenwich, wrote and had published a pointed letter to the editor of The Rhode Island Pendulum, a weekly publication serving East Greenwich, Warwick and northern parts of North Kingstown. Ms. Roberts took to task the East Greenwich town council member who had suggested a \$10.00 user fee to town residents to "get a measure of whether the library is used or not." Quoting R.I. state law 29-4-6, that "no fee for the use of books shall ever be exacted," Ms. Roberts noted that, although East Greenwich is one of the most affluent communities in the state, it was in 30th place last year of the 37 cities and towns that contribute to public libraries. In a reply to Ms. Roberts, Peter Fuller, East Greenwich Librarian, said, "You have rendered a valuable service by demolishing the notion that this community is generous to its library."

**ACQUISITIONS LIBRARIANS MEET:** On April 14th, a group of Acquisitions Librarians from the CRIARL libraries got together to share ideas on solving common problems. The first meeting served as an introduction to each other and to their departmental policies and procedures. Meetings will be held in the future to discuss specific topics, such as vendor problems, out-of-print dealers, automated systems, and budget preparation.



RILA has recently received an urgent request from Elizabeth W. Stone, President of ALA, for contributions for the Huron Plaza Complex, the major building project of ALA.

"ALA's new building has turned an undeveloped land asset into a known financial asset with a value of about \$2.5 million, and not a penny of this investment came from ALA's general funds budget. The Huron Plaza Building and the renovation of the adjacent space (our older headquarters building) has doubled the space available for the more effective implementation of current and future services to our membership. Further, the building assures a sound income to ALA for the future. Now we have available three floors of rental income in a prime location in downtown Chicago."

"So what's the problem? Inflation took the final costs for completing the building project above the initial estimates. We--the members of ALA who will benefit from the new building--must raise \$250,000 by September 1, 1982, to avoid the penalty of a long-term loan at a high interest rate."

More than 1,500 members have already contributed to the Fifty East Huron Fund, and ALA is looking for help from others. RILA and ALA members wishing to contribute to the renewed fund drive, can make checks payable to the American Library Association and send them to:

50 East Huron Fund  
American Library Association  
50 East Huron Street  
Chicago, IL 60611



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## CALENDAR

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29	30	31				

June 8

### ANNUAL STATE-WIDE ILL REVIEW

Place: Meeting Room, Providence Public Library,  
150 Empire Street, Providence, RI  
Time: 10:00 a.m., Coffee at 9:30 a.m.

June 22

### RILA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Place: Providence Public Library  
Time: 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

### FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

A group of New England librarians who work with government documents, the NELINET Government Documents Task Group, is launching a public awareness campaign in behalf of the federal depository libraries in New England. Our target audience consists of non-profit organizations, public officials, smaller businesses concerned with energy, the environment, health, housing and other like public interest concerns. Our goal is to alert this audience to the vast resources available in the federal depository libraries throughout New England. We plan to direct them to their local public library to find out the location of the nearest federal depository library. A list of federal depository libraries with addresses and telephone numbers is available free from:

Joint Committee on Printing	Dan MacGilvrary
Room S-151	U.S. Gov't Printing Office
The Capitol	Library Division
Washington, D.C. 20510	5236 Eisenhower Avenue
	Alexandria, VA 22304

The Government Printing Office is planning a similar campaign, national in scope and aimed at the general public. They will also direct people to their local public library. If you are unfamiliar with the federal depository libraries in your area, we encourage you to obtain the free list and to feel free to call the nearest depository library with any questions you may have.

# RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## Individual Membership Application/Renewal Form

July 1, 1982--June 30, 1983

First time member	\$8.00	Library personnel (dues based on salary):	
Library school student	\$8.00	Under \$8,999.	\$ 8.00
(maximum three years)		\$9,000--\$12,999.	\$12.00
Trustee	\$8.00	\$13,000--\$16,999.	\$16.00
Retired	\$8.00	\$17,000 and over	\$20.00
Affiliate	\$8.00		

Association dues support such activities as legislation, continuing education, public relations and promotion, and intellectual freedom.

For information about institutional and affiliate membership, contact the Chair of the Membership Committee.

Your dues include receipt of the RILA Bulletin, 11 issues/year, and reduced conference rates. Non-membership subscription rate for the RILA Bulletin is \$8/year.

Membership fees are tax deductible; please retain this section for your records.

1982/83 membership      Dues paid \_\_\_\_\_      Date \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues payable July 1, 1982. Memberships not paid by Sept. 15, 1982 will be withdrawn.

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### PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT CHECK

All listings in the annual MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY are taken from the information provided below. Would all RENEWING MEMBERS please check your listing in the January 1982 directory, and indicate whether the information on the form below represents a change from your current listing. If so, please check here \_\_\_\_\_. Please notify the Chair of the Membership Committee of future changes of address (the Post Office will not forward the RILA Bulletin), position, or telephone number. (Please type or print the following)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Library or  
Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Business telephone number \_\_\_\_\_ Dues amount paid \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to send \$1.00 to the Washington office of ALA to support its work on behalf of libraries, please add \$1.00 to the amount paid for dues and check this box ☐

If you do not want your listing to appear in the annual Membership Directory, check here \_\_\_\_

Mail this form and check for payment to: RILA, attn. Paul G. Drake, Membership Chair, c/o Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI 02886-3998 (telephone 739-1919).

Thank you for your support of the Rhode Island Library Association.



# RILA SRRT HOTLINE

The RILA Bulletin editors ask local library employers in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut to send us news of upcoming openings at any level in their libraries. There is no advertising fee. Write or call Elizabeth Rogers, Providence Public Library, 150 Empire Street, Providence, RI 02908. Telephone (401) 521-7722.

Job-seekers desiring a copy of the most recent monthly Jobline may obtain one by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the SRRT coordinator: Mary Frances Cooper, Providence Public Library, 150 Empire Street, Providence, RI 02908. In order for a job notice to appear in the Bulletin, it must be received before the 15th. of the preceeding month.

Employers and job-seekers also have access to the New England Library Jobline, a free service of the New England Library Board. Employers call (207) 622-4733 to place a position announcement on the Jobline. Those interested in learning about open positions in New England, call (207) 623-2286. The Jobline is updated with a new tape each Friday.

## -Rhode Island-

LIBRARY DIRECTOR, East Greenwich Free Library: Available as of May 31. Annual salary in the vicinity of \$12,000. Applicants may send resumes to Box 472, East Greenwich, RI 02818.

## -Massachusetts-

HEAD OF READER SERVICES, Bentley College: Bentley is known for its excellence in preparing men and women for careers in business-related professions, has enrollment over 7,000. Head of Reader Services, Solomon R. Baker Library, directs and manages the administrative and operational activities of Reader Services Department, which includes Reference and Circulation-Reserve and has major responsibility for the Collection Development Program. The position reports to the Director of the Library and supervises 3½ professional, 2 support and 27 student staff. Qual.: MLS (ALA-accred.), minimum of 3 years experience including collection development and library instruction. Familiarity with on-line searching and automated circulation systems preferred. Administrative and supervisory experience required. Position available August 9, 1982. Preliminary interviews at ALA. Submit resume and names of three professional references by June 21, 1982 to: Personnel Office, Bentley College, Beaver & Forest Streets, Waltham, MA 02254. (Boston Globe 5/9)

**STATE LIBRARIAN:** Appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. Under the direction and control of a 7 member board of trustees. The State Librarian is responsible for the management of 840,000 volume research library servicing the executive and legislative branches of the Commonwealth Government. The library has a staff of 34 full-time employees augmented by part-time student interns. Candidates should hold a professional academic degree in Library Science or equivalent graduate degree and have a minimum of 10 years experience in the management of a research library or other organization devoted to information dissemination. Have academic background or experience in disciplines related to the State Library functions, history, public affairs, public policy, legal research, statistics and planning; in addition be imaginative, innovative and be responsive and able to work with constitutional officers and the State Legislature. Salary: \$27,707.16. Send resume to State Library Search Committee, c/o The Board of Trustees, Massachusetts State Library, 341 State House, Boston, MA 02133. (Boston Globe 5/16)

**LIBRARY ASSISTANT:** Historical Society seeks responsible assistant for lending library. Library experience and an understanding of basic filing and shelving systems, basic typing skills required. Some college, U.S. history, geography, or genealogy background preferred. Full-time and part-time available. Send resume to: A241 Globe Office, Boston MA 02107. (Boston Globe 5/16)

**SPECIALIST IN BOOK SELECTION:** (Harvard College Library): Responsible for Widener Library Collection Development or material published in Latin America, Spain, Portugal, Rumania, Albania and the Phillipines, in the Humanities and Social Sciences, both new and retrospective. Selects monographs and serials; supervises searching and order preparation process; initiates and oversees correspondence and records of exchange programs with about 100 institutions; and makes preservation decisions. Works with faculty and students on bibliographic problems and research needs; works closely with serials department in resolving complex receipt problems; coordinates collecting program with other units of the University Library in this field. Qual.: fluency in Spanish and Portuguese, strong knowledge of literature and culture of major assigned areas, several years of library experience, and an interest in computer applications to library acquisition process required. MLS or equivalent; graduate degree in Iberian or Latin American studies; knowledge of Rumanian and knowledge of the book trade highly desirable. Available Sept. 1, 1982. Rank: Librarian I or II depending on qualifications. Salary: \$16,000 or more, depending on qualifications. Send resume to: Philip E. Leinbach, Assistant University Librarian for Personnel, Harvard University Library, Widener Library, Cambridge, MA 02138 (Chron. of Higher Ed. 4/28)

**CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN:** Responsible for book selection, collection maintenance, reference in children's area, cataloguing, programs. Requirements: MLS (ALA-accred.), previous experience in children's work. Position available immediately. Send letter and resume to: Walter T. Punch, Director, Revere Public Library, 179 Beach Street, Revere, MA 02151. (Boston Globe 5/16)



**CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN:** Active, service-oriented public library has immediate opening for creative, capable Librarian who will continue to develop an already strong children's department. MLS required. Experience in children's library work desirable. Key qualifications will include knowledge of children's books; ability to work independently within a policy framework; communications skills; ability to plan and execute displays, programs, etc. Salary: \$13,609-\$16,438 in 5 steps. Send resume to: Janice Neubauer, Director, Duxbury Free Library, 147 St. George Street, Duxbury MA 02332. (Boston Globe 5/16)

**ORIGINAL CATALOG LIBRARIAN:** Originally catalogs and classifies monographs and serials. Familiar with AACR 2, MARC tagging, OCLC classifications and subject headings. MLS required, 2-4 years cataloging experience in academic or research library. Proficiency in German and one other foreign language. Salary: \$14,250 minimum. Apply to: Bessie Hahm, Director of Library Services, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02254.

**HEAD CATALOGUING LIBRARIAN:** Williston Memorial Library, Mount Holyoke College: Reports to Head of Technical Services Assistant Librarian, has managerial responsibilities for operations of the Catalogue Dept. Directs a staff of 9 including 3 professionals, 2.5 technicians, & 3.5 clericals. Responsibilities include creation & interpretation of cataloging and classification policies, supervision of input & copy cataloging on OCLC, card catalogue maintenance & planning for on-line catalogue. Handles cataloging tasks as needed for the completion of the work of the dept. Participates in hiring & training. The libraries of Five Colleges, Inc. (Amherst, Hampshire, Mt. Holyoke & Smith Colleges & the Univ. of Mass.) are in the planning stages of a joint automated system which will include acquisitions, cataloging, circulation, serials control & an on-line catalogue. Qual.: MLS (ALA-accred.), minimum of 6 years' experience in cataloging & classification in an academic library. Thorough knowledge of current & previous cataloging procedures, experience with OCLC, demonstrated knowledge of LC classification, AACR2 & all aspects of descriptive cataloging & classification for monographic, serial and non-print formats. Reading knowledge of at least two Western European languages desirable. Preference will be given to applicants with previous managerial experience & to those with substantial serial experience. Position open August 1, 1982. Calendar year appointment. Minimum salary \$21,000 depending on qualifications & experience. Faculty status, TIAA/CREF & other liberal fringe benefits. Application deadline June 30, 1982. Send resume & names of 3 references to: Anne C. Edmonds, College Librarian, Mount Holyoke College Library, South Hadley, MA 01075. (Chron. of Higher Ed. 5/19)

**CATALOGER, ANTHROPOLOGY:** Duties include original cataloging of monographs (including rare books) & serials for the field of anthropology; supervision of a library assistant for catalog & student filers; assisting in establishing & revising anthropological subject headings; participation in library publication projects; catalog maintenance. Qual.: MLS; OCLC experience; experience in original cataloging; reading knowledge of at least two European languages; Master's Degree in anthropology or the course equivalent required. Supervisory experience desirable. Available immediately. Rank: Librarian I or II, depending on qualifications. Salary: \$16,000 or more, depending on qualifications. Send resume to: Philip E. Leinbach, Assistant University Librarian for Personnel, Harvard University Library, Cambridge MA 02138 (Chron. of Higher Ed. 5/19)



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